

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Replace the claims with the following rewritten listing:

1. (Currently Amended) A seat-belt warning device comprising
a device for sensing a seat occupancy by a passenger,
a device for sensing a buckling status of a seat belt associated with the seat, and
a device for outputting a warning signal,
~~characterized in that the~~wherein said device for sensing a seat occupancy by a passenger comprises an optical imaging system for recording situation images and an image evaluation unit for evaluating the situation images which have been recorded.
2. (Currently Amended) The seat-belt warning device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the image evaluation unit evaluates a situation image, which has been recorded by the imaging system, on the basis of ~~the~~-contours and/or edges contained in said image.
3. (Currently Amended) The seat-belt warning device as claimed in ~~either of~~
~~claims 1 and 2~~in claim 1, wherein the imaging system comprises a CMOS camera and/or a CCD camera.
4. (Currently Amended) The seat-belt warning device as claimed in ~~one of claims~~
~~1 to 3~~claim 1, wherein the device for sensing a buckling status of a seat belt comprises a belt lock sensor.
5. (Currently Amended) The seat-belt warning device as claimed in ~~one of claims~~
~~1 to 3~~claim 1, wherein the device for sensing a buckling status of a seat belt is formed by the optical imaging system.

6. (Currently Amended) The seat-belt warning device as claimed in claim 5, wherein the seat belt has one or more markings which are detectable by the optical system.
7. (Currently Amended) The seat-belt warning device as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 6~~claim 1, wherein the optical imaging system comprises a lighting device for illuminating the space which is to be monitored.
8. (New) The seat-belt warning device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the imaging system comprises a CMOS camera and/or a CCD camera.